

We claim:

1. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure, the data structure having a first user-defined field, or first “UDF”, the first UDF associated with a record stored in a table, the first UDF comprising:

an identifier of the record;

an identifier of the first UDF; and

a first datafield, whereby the first datafield is associated with the record and additional information may be stored in the first datafield and associated with the record and without modification of the table.
2. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the computer-readable medium further comprises a metadata, the metadata associated with the first UDF, and the metadata comprising a classification of data type, the classification of data type distinguishing the data type of the additional information stored in the first datafield.
3. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the computer-readable medium further comprises a metadata, the metadata associated with the first UDF, and the metadata comprising a name, the name associated with the first UDF and the name for use in software operations accessing the first UDF.
4. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the computer-readable medium further comprises a metadata, the metadata associated with the first UDF, and the

metadata comprising a title, the title associated with the first UDF and the name for use in a visual display of the additional information of the first UDF.

5. The data structure of claim 1, wherein the data structure further comprises a class plurality of UDF's and the first datafield comprises a class identifier of the class plurality of UDF's, and each UDF of the class plurality comprising:
 - the class identifier;
 - a unique identifier of the UDF of the class plurality of UDF's; and
 - a datafield, whereby each datafield of the class plurality of UDF's may be associated with the first UDF and therefrom associated with the record, and information may be stored in the plurality of datafields of the class plurality of UDF's and associated with the first UDF, and therefrom the information of the plurality of datafields of the class plurality of UDF's may be associated with the record and without modification of the table.
6. The data structure of claim 1, wherein the data structure further comprises a plurality of UDF's, each UDF comprising:
 - an identifier of the first UDF;
 - a unique identifier of one of the plurality of UDF's; and
 - a datafield, whereby the plurality of datafields are associated with the first UDF and information may be stored in the plurality of datafields and associated with the first UDF, and therefrom the information of the plurality of datafields may be associated with the record and without modification of the table.

7. The data structure of claim 1, wherein the identifier of the record is a pointer.
8. The data structure of claim 1, wherein the data structure comprises a plurality of user-defined fields, or plurality of “UDF’s”, each UDF associated with a record stored in a table, and each UDF comprising:
 - an identifier of the record;
 - a unique identifier of one of the plurality of UDF’s ; and
 - a datafield, whereby the plurality of datafields are associated with the record and information may be stored in the plurality of datafields and the information of the plurality of datafields may be associated with the record and without modification of the table.
9. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure, the data structure having a record, a List and a list user-defined field, or “List UDF”, the List UDF relatable to the record, and the List UDF comprising:
 - an identifier of the List UDF;
 - an identifier of the List; and
 - a data address of the List, whereby an information stored at the data address of the List is associated with the List UDF and the information may be stored or modified at the data address of the List, and the information may be associated with the record and without modification of the table.

10. A computer system comprising:

a software database having data organized into a table of records;

a user-defined field for associating a datum with a record of the table, the user-defined field having a UDF identifier and a record identifier;

a metadata associated with the user-defined field and the metadata specifying the data type of the datum; and

a database manager software program for merging the user-defined field with the record to associate the datum of the user-defined field with the record of the table.